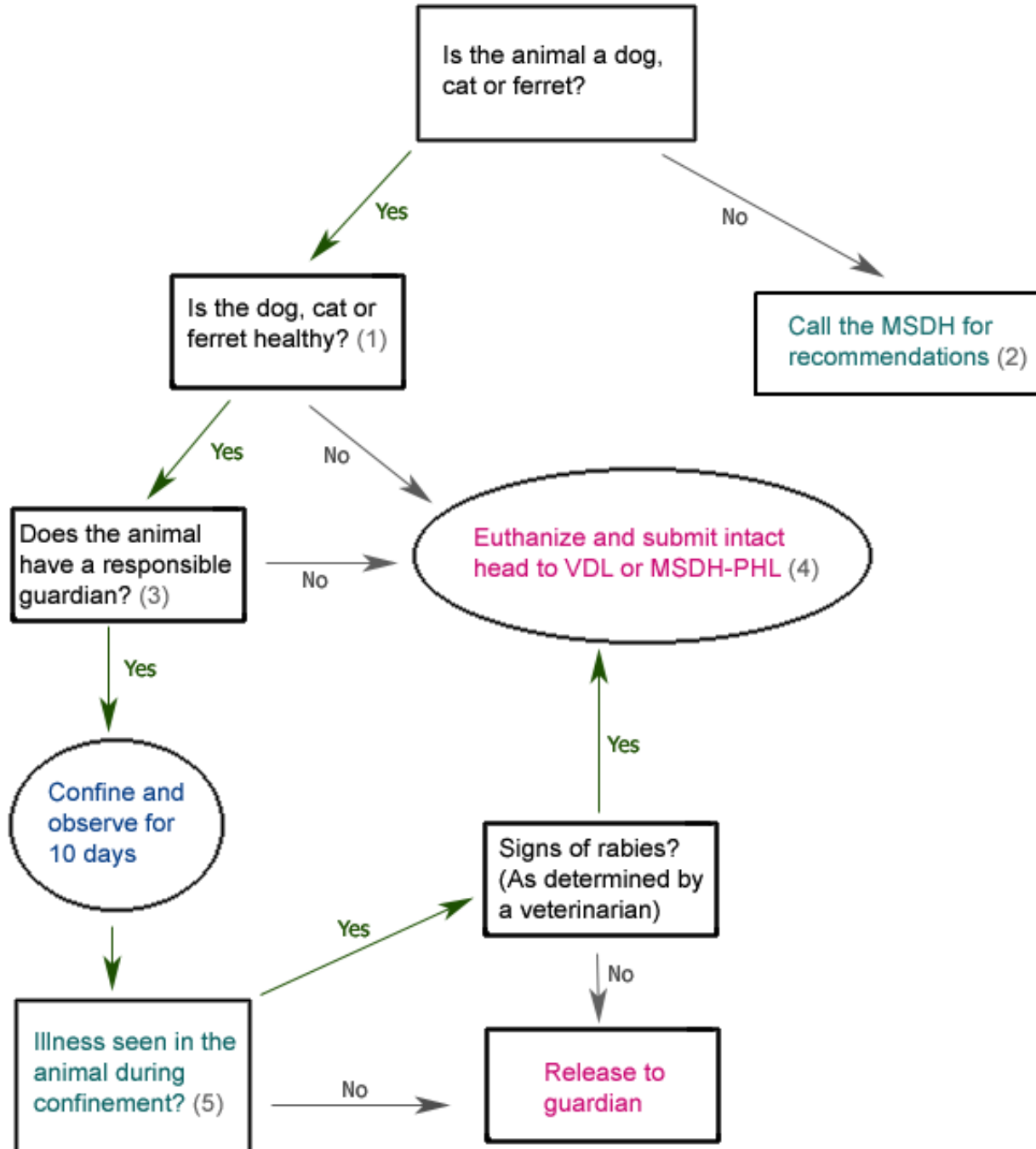


## *Animal Postexposure Recommendations Algorithm*

### *Animals that Bite Humans*



## **Elaboration of Algorithm**

- (1) The animal should be healthy without evidence of rabies. This may have to be determined by a health department official and/or local veterinarian.
- (2) Recommendations vary by species, vaccination status, epidemiology, etc. so are case specific. Call 601-576-7725 for consultation with an epidemiologist or veterinarian with the MSDH (Mississippi State Department of Health).
- (3) Guardian will be taken to be anyone owning or taking responsibility for the animal. If the guardian is deemed responsible by the veterinarian and the health department the animal can be confined at home. Do **not** vaccinate for rabies during the confinement period.
- (4) All rabies testing is done by the MSDH - Public Health Laboratory (MSDH-PHL) using dFA tests. Samples sent to the Veterinary Diagnostic Lab (VDL) will be forwarded to the MSDH-PHL.
- (5) If any illness is detected in the animal during the period of confinement then a veterinarian must evaluate the animal immediately for signs consistent with rabies. The health department must also be notified.